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Red Reforms Pay Way for Trade in U. S.

White House Says Resumption
of Commerce With
Soviet Russia Is Near,
and Harding Is Hopeful

Good Will Built Up By Famine Relief

Bolshevik Envoy to Buy
Grain With 10 Million
Of Old Imperial Gold

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Changes in Soviet governmental policies, recently made or indicated as in prospect, may eventually bring about a resumption of trade relations between Russia and the United States. It was said to-day at the White House.

The estimates recently submitted to Congress by the Administration, it was recalled to-day in other quarters, called for an appropriation for the salaries of two trade commissioners and one clerk in Russia. Department of Commerce officials, however, have explained that while there was no immediate intention of sending commercial representatives to that country, the department, in submitting its estimate for the next fiscal year, was merely preparing itself to meet any possible developments along that line.

Harding Is Hopeful

President Harding believes progress is in the making in Russia, but it is too early to tell definitely what effect abandonment of ultra-radical Bolshevik policies will ultimately have upon the American attitude toward Russia.

The work of the American Relief Administration in feeding starving children in the Volga regions has served to give administration officials a new insight into Russian conditions, and the latest review from the Commerce Department says conditions are in a state of flux and it is not possible now to forecast how they will shape themselves.

A change in the attitude of the American government, however, already is noted, because permission has been granted to a Soviet representative to buy grain in the United States to buy grain with the remaining \$10,000,000 of old imperial gold taken from the Russian treasury.

The first step toward this was reached when the Soviet representative, a representative of the American Relief Administration, the food purchased for the \$20,000,000 worth of grain, and the United States to feed children and adults and provide a supply of seed grain for spring. The Russians in a radical departure from the extreme Bolshevik scheme, have made concessions to foreign corporations, and the latest advice is to the effect that such large rentals and other concessions are imposed that foreigners can undertake to operate because there would be no profits.

Awaiting Further Proof

The question of restoring trade relations with Russia repeatedly has been urged by the Administration, but it will take no step in that direction until further assurances are given that there is more complete demonstration that these guarantees will be carried out.

The experience of the relief administration, of which Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover is chairman, has given this government considerable information about Russia that it did not have before this was taken up. The administration demanded certain guarantees and the main stipulations have been lived up to by the Russian Soviet authorities.

It is true that at times there has been grumbling co-operation because of the lack of a capitalistic country, but the Russian officials have not thwarted the relief administration in all essential particulars and have faith with the administration and at times have given unselfish co-operation.

The decision to have the balance of gold taken from the imperial treasury to aid relief purposes is considered a relief purpose is considered.

British Troops Overawe Lower Egypt Rioters

Nile Valley Quiet and Natives
at Suez Are Threatened With
Aerial Bombing

From The Tribune's Egyptian Bureau
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LONDON, Dec. 27.—The British troops and marines in lower Egypt crushed the Nationalist rioting that has been going on since last night in several districts. The Nile valley is quiet to-day, according to reports received here. The demonstrators were thoroughly cowed in most of the larger cities. The British troops which have been landed by the British government are in control in Cairo, Suez, Alexandria, Ismailia and Port Said. More trouble is feared at Cairo and Suez.

The British Liberal press argues that the arrest of Said Zagloul Pasha, Nationalist leader, is a direct challenge to the Egyptian Nationalist movement. Here says that Egypt will be in a revolt before long if the British government does not modify its policy.

CAIRO, Dec. 27. (By The Associated Press).—The authorities are taking severe measures to prevent the congregation of riotous crowds at Suez, and an official police has been posted there. It is feared that the military airplanes observe the assembly which will drop smoke bombs and if the assembly does not disperse they will drop shells and use machine guns.

The Minister of Education has closed all government schools, and the law courts are beginning to strike. The law courts are beginning to strike. The law courts are beginning to strike.

France to Meet Soviet in Economic Conference if America Takes Part

Special Cable Dispatch to The Tribune
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PARIS, Dec. 27.—France will overcome her antipathy to the Russian Bolshevik government and enter a European economic conference in which the Moscow government is represented if the United States agrees to take part in the gathering, the Tribune correspondent was informed to-day on the highest authority.

Denial was given to a London report that France had definitely agreed to go to such a meeting in London February 8. On the other hand, France will insist that neutral ground, perhaps Holland, shall be the place for such a conference, and her acceptance will not be forthcoming until the Washington government has made known its attitude. If France's assent is given when the conference is proposed at the Cannes meeting of the Supreme Council it will be with the knowledge that the United States will collaborate at the proper time.

The French view is that the United States has taken a large interest in Russian affairs, and consequently would probably consent to join with Great Britain and France in discussions with the Soviet representatives of economic problems.

Big Shake-Up In Enforcement System Begun

Daugherty Starts House-
cleaning of Duplications
in Federal and State
Methods; Asks Assistance

State Revisions Urged

Letter to Attorneys Gen-
eral Suggests Local Con-
ferences at Early Date

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—A general housecleaning of all duplication in Federal and state systems for enforcing the liquor, food and fuel supply laws was begun to-day by Attorney General Daugherty.

So substantial is the overlapping of powers and activities, a nation-wide revision will mean a great saving in expenditures and more effective enforcement, Mr. Daugherty declares in a letter sent to the attorney general of the states.

The Attorney General's letter, which is part of his drive to reduce retail prices, pointed out that such co-operation, particularly in stopping "extortion" in the prices now maintained, would be of vast importance to the municipal authorities who have been trying to reach the liquor, food and fuel supply laws. The letter suggested that the Federal authorities were not disposed to shirk their duties, but required co-operation.

Calls for Conference

To bring about a clean-cut working arrangement between state officials and the Federal enforcement officers, the Attorney General calls upon the chief law officer of each state to gather a conference of all prosecuting attorneys and United States attorneys. The conference could frame a working agreement early in the new year, the Attorney General says, which would result in more economical law enforcement, but also a more prompt enforcement of existing law, as well as a more efficient administration of the several states of the Union. This co-operation will not only insure a reduction in expenditures, but also a more prompt enforcement of existing law, as well as a more efficient administration of the several states of the Union.

It is thought a consignment of synthetic gin with a wool alcohol base was brought into Manhattan a few days before Christmas and disposed of during the holiday.

Suspect Is Arrested

Detective Cronin, of the West Sixty-eighth Street police station, last night arrested John Horan, of 206 West Sixty-fourth Street, the man who sold the gin. Horan denied knowledge of the transaction. He was locked up, charged with homicide.

A fifth possible victim was James A. Corrig, a cook. He was found in a Bowery lodging house, blinded from liquor drink. The police ordered his removal to Metropolitan Hospital.

Blackwell's Island, where he was reported to be, was last night taken to the barge Liberty Bell yesterday had taken eighty-six drams of alcohol from the Brooklyn pier of the Ward Line Oriaba for transfer to an Italian steamship at Pier 59. The cargo later was found to be twenty-seven drams, or 3,000 gallons, short. The barge was seized and the alcohol was found to be stolen.

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Union Agrees To Arbitrate With Builders

Untermeyer's Plan for Two-
Year Contract, Retaining
Present Scale Through
Next Year, Is Accepted

Employers Ready
To Decide To-day

Association Refuses to
Oust Secretary Accused
by Lockwood Attorney

Developments hearing on the Lockwood legislative committee's investigation of New York's building industry occurred in rapid succession yesterday. The following summarizes the principal events of the day:

Heads of all the building trades unions in the city, at a meeting in Building Trades Council headquarters at 13 St. Mark's Place, accepted on behalf of their organization an arbitration plan submitted by Samuel Untermeyer, volunteer chief counsel for the Lockwood committee, providing for a two-year contract from January 1 and the maintenance of the present wage scale through 1922.

Officials of the Building Trades Employers' Association announced that the board of governors of that organization will meet to-day at the association offices, 30 West Thirty-third Street, to take action on the plan with a view to its acceptance or rejection.

Labor Conference To-day

Representatives of the Building Trades Council, the New York State Federation of Labor and the American Federation of Labor decided to hold a conference to-day in the Hotel Continental over the memorandum of reforms and changes in rules demanded of the building trades unions by the Lockwood committee.

Delegates of the various building trades unions, it was stated by Patrick J. Crowley, president of the Building Trades Council, will meet with Mr. Untermeyer in the afternoon to discuss the memorandum of reforms, and probably to give him their final decision concerning them.

Although the views of the Building Trades Council, which has yet been organized, let it be known emphatically that they would refuse his demand for the discharge of Samuel B. Donnelly, a secretary, who was termed "a most efficient man and worthy of every confidence on the part of his employers."

Crisis Averted, Is Belief

The arbitration plan, which was sent simultaneously to the unions and the employers' association, was looked upon in some quarters last night as offering the greatest hope for untangling the labyrinthine and months-old differences of the two sides in the building industry that has yet been submitted. It could not be learned whether it represented the exclusive effort of Mr. Untermeyer himself, or whether it merged the views of the Building Trades Council and the American Federation of Labor.

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France Rejects Limit On Submarines; Japan Ready to Change Treaty

France May Urge Treaty, Including
Germany, to Guard European Waters

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. (By The Associated Press).—A suggestion involving interesting political considerations came to the surface during the day from French circles of the armament conference. It was a hint, advanced informally while the delegation waited for news of the decisions of the Cabinet in Paris, that France might be willing to agree to a status quo limitation of submarine strength if the other powers would join with her in a treaty designed to preserve peace in European waters.

As tentatively outlined, such a treaty would be similar in purpose to that just concluded to cover the Pacific, and would have as its signatories France, Great Britain, Italy and Germany. Should they desire to do so, it was said, the United States and Japan might also participate in the agreement, although the inclusion of the four European powers, including Germany expressly, would be considered indispensable.

Paris Instructs Delegates
To Insist on Proportion
Exceeding That Allotted
to U. S. and Britain

90,000-Ton Fleet
Fixed by Cabinet

Tokio Said to Object to
Clause Including Main-
land in Protected Area

PARIS, Wednesday, Dec. 28.—The French Cabinet, after consideration of the submarine question, has unreservedly approved the attitude of the French delegation in Washington in firmly standing by the figure of 90,000 tons, says the "Excelsior" to-day.

By Carter Field

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—Rejection of the American proposals for limitation of submarine tonnage will be formally communicated to the armament committee by the French delegation to-morrow morning, it was learned to-night. Official cable dispatches from Paris to-day, it was said, fixed a minimum of submarine tonnage for France far in excess not only of the amount proposed by the United States for France, but of the amount also fixed and accepted by both Britain and the United States.

Another development of prime importance to-day was the statement in authoritative quarters that Japan might move to have the four-power treaty inoperative so far as protection of the main islands of Japan is concerned. It was this phase of the treaty which recently caused so much opposition to develop in certain quarters in Washington.

75,000 Tons Suggested

No statement was made by the French here to-night as to just what minimum of submarine tonnage they will demand, but it is believed that the original French figure of 90,000 tons may have been modified to 75,000 tons. In view of the fact that both Britain and the United States have accepted a minimum of 60,000 tons, tentatively, of course, on agreements to suitable ratios by the other powers, this position of the French is not conducive to a harmonious agreement on the submarine question.

It was admitted at the White House to-day that informal conversations already had been had with respect to the question of submarines. This plan of abandoning all hope of compromise on the submarine issue at this present conference is believed by some of the delegates to be the only practical method of dealing with the problem.

Some delegates point out that a great deal has been accomplished by this conference in fixing the capital ship ratio and establishing the ten-year naval holiday so far as big ship construction is concerned. Then, the establishment of the four-power ratio is regarded as a tremendous achievement in the direction of peace, not to ignore the ending of the Anglo-Japanese alliance and the danger of a war between the United States and Japan.

"Why, then," they ask, "should the conference go ahead and struggle with an impossible situation such as the French demands for submarine tonnage in excess of that admitted to be satisfactory by Britain, the United States and Japan?"

Think France May Change

Underlying this contention is the thought that if France goes back home having prevented the conference from accomplishing anything either on submarines or on all that class of craft which are used in fighting submarines, her people will be quick to feel the moral sentiment of the world directed against her, with the result that at a conference of long-range submarine, the French may be more reasonable.

Incidentally the Japanese have not yet given their decision on submarine tonnage, waiting patiently until the French have spoken. Mr. Hanabusa, of the Japanese delegation, said to-day the Japanese delegation did not have to refer this question to Tokyo, having entire authority to act. He said Japan would be entirely satisfied with the submarine tonnage originally fixed in the American plan, 54,000 tons, but would not discuss whether, if the American plan was adopted, the tonnage of 54,000 tons was obtained by the application of the 5-5-3 ratio, Japan would be willing to reduce further.

Political Aspect Suggested

On the submarine issue, which, with Shanghai, is holding back the conclusion of the conference, said to-day the situation seems to have passed from Washington. According to some of those most friendly to the French, Premier Briand is using the submarine issue in Washington as a club to force Lloyd George's hand on European matters.

At any rate the American delegation as it was put by an American spokesman to-day, has offered its solution and now must await the French verdict on it before taking any further action. There are those who think that Mr. Hughes ought to appeal to the French people over the heads of the only the French delegates here—there has been much discussion of the subject. There are those who think that Lloyd George's hand on European matters.

When You Think of Writing
Think of Whiting.—Adv.

Freezes to Death at Concy

Martin Kenney, fifty-five years old, of 3124 Merrick Avenue, Concy Island, was found frozen to death yesterday in the rear yard of his home. He lived alone and was employed as a watchman of houses, at Thirty-first Street and Gravesend Bay. His body was discovered by another watchman.

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THE WEATHER
Fair and colder to-day; to-morrow increasing clouds and showers; northwest winds shifting to easterly to-morrow.
Full Report on Last Page

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1921

First to Last—the Truth: News Editorials—Advertisements